

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 9 and 11 to 19 are pending in the application; claim 10 is canceled.

Specification

The disclosure is objected because of informalities in paragraphs 0043, 0049; 0051. These paragraphs have been corrected.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1-7 and 17-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Potter et al.* (US 6,431,289).

Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of allowable claim 10 and should thus be allowable over *Potter et al.* Claim 19 referring to a power tool having a gearbox according to claim 1 (amended) should also be allowable.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 8-16 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of claim 10 and should thus be allowable together with its dependent claims 2-7 and 11-18.

Allowable claim 8 has been rewritten in independent form including the features of claim 1 and claim 7.

Allowable claim 9 has been rewritten in independent form including the features of claim 1 and claim 7. Please note that claim 9 has been corrected in that "radially" has been changed to axially. The term "radially" is obviously wrong since the claim refers to the axially acting locking device of Fig. 10; see also paragraphs 0022 and 0056 of the specification.

Claim 19 claiming a power tool with a gearbox according to amended claim 1 should also be allowable.

The fee in the amount of \$200.00 for one extra independent claim in excess of three is to be charged to Patent and Trademark Office deposit account 50-1199.

- 8 -

12/19/05: Amd for Ser. No. 10/708,906 - Inventor(s): Eisenhardt - Filing Date: 3/31/2004

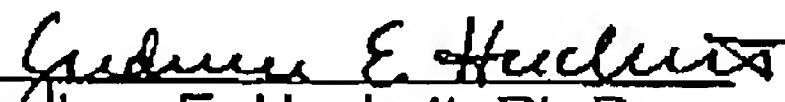
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner have any further objections or suggestions, the undersigned would appreciate a phone call or e-mail from the examiner to discuss appropriate amendments to place the application into condition for allowance.

Authorization is herewith given to charge any fees or any shortages in any fees required during prosecution of this application and not paid by other means to Patent and Trademark Office deposit account 50-1199.

Respectfully submitted on December 19, 2005,


Ms. Gudrun E. Hockett, Ph.D.
Patent Agent, Registration No. 35,747
Lönsstr. 53
42289 Wuppertal
GERMANY
Telephone: +49-202-257-0371
Facsimile: +49-202-257-0372
gudrun.draudt@t-online.de

GEH

- 9 -

12/19/05: Amd for Ser. No. 10/708,906 - Inventor(s): Eisenhardt - Filing Date: 3/31/2004